

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00646 240429Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PC-01 IGA-02 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 USIA-06 /028 W
-----240431Z 099512 /70
R 240330Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3176

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PROP MU
SUBJECT: ROWAS REQUEST FOR PEACE CORPS ASSISTANCE IN INFORMATION
MINISTRY

REF: STATE 083164

1. ROWAS' REQUEST TO DEPASSTSEC SOBER IS NOT THE FIRST TIME HE HAS RAISED THIS QUESTION. DURING A CALL ON HIM BY DCM AND USIS INSPECTORS LAST OCTOBER, HE ASKED FOR USG HELP IN ANTI-COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA FIELD. HIS REQUEST COVERED A WIDE VARIETY OF AID FROM MOBILE CINEMA UNITS AND ANTI-COMMUNIST TRACTS TO ADVISOR PERSONNEL, BUT HE DID NOT MENTION THE PEACE CORPS. WE WERE NONCOMMITTAL. IN CONSIDERING HIS PROPOSAL WITHIN MISSION LATER, WE CONCLUDED IT WAS NOT AN ATTRACTIVE AREA FOR U.S. TO GET INTO, THAT WASHINGTON WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY SHOOT IT DOWN ANYHOW, SO WE LET IT DROP. HIS SUGGESTION SEEMED TO STEM FROM AN OUTDATED PERCEPTION OF USG WILLINGNESS INVOLVE ITSELF IN ANTI-COMMUNIST ACTIVISM.

2. ROWAS HAS NOW TOSSED THE IDEA DIRECTLY INTO DEPARTMENT'S LAP, WITH NEW PEACE CORPS TWIST. WE SHARE CONCERNS EXPRESSED IN REFTTEL ABOUT USING PEACE CORPS FOR WHAT ROWAS OBVIOUSLY ENVISAGES AS A "HARD CORE PROPAGANDA" EXERCISE. THE PEACE CORPS SHOULD BE KEPT FAR FROM SUCH PROGRAMS. OUR REACTION TO
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PAGE 02 MUSCAT 00646 240429Z

ROWAS' SPECIFIC PROPOSAL, THEREFORE, IS DISTINCTLY NEGATIVE.

3. THERE REMAINS THE QUESTION OF WHETHER USG SHOULD HELP OMANGOV IN THIS FIELD IN SOME OTHER WAY. WE HESITATE TO RECOMMEND ANY SUCH INVOLVEMENT BECAUSE, UNLESS VERY LOW-KEY, IT COULD HINDER RATHER THAN HELP BY PROVIDING A NEW TARGET FOR PDRY PROPAGANDA. THE ONLY ONE OF ROWAS' IDEAS WE FIND

ACCEPTABLE IS HIS REQUEST FOR MOBILE FILM UNITS. THIS WOULD
HELP HIS MINISTRY IN SEVERAL WAYS, NOT JUST IN THE ANTI-PFLO
EFFORT. IT WOULD ALSO GIVE ASSURANCE THAT USG STANDS CONCRETELY
BEHIND OMAN'S FLIGHT AGAINST INSURGENCY. TOTAL TURNDOWN OF HIS
PERSISTENT REQUESTS MIGHT NOT BE UNDERSTOOD.

4. WOULD THE REIMBURSABLE AID PROGRAM BE A FEASIBLE MECHANISM
FOR MOBILE FILM UNITS IN RESPONSE TO ROWAS' REQUEST?
WOLLE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROPAGANDA, INFORMATION CONTROL, MOTION PICTURES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MUSCAT00646
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770142-1146
Format: TEL
From: MUSCAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770425/aaaaavdz.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 43e416a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 83164
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2711566
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROWAS REQUEST FOR PEACE CORPS ASSISTANCE IN INFORMATION MINISTRY
TAGS: PROP, MU, PC, (ROWAS, ABD-AL-AZIZ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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